

FIBRE CHANNEL ADDRESS ADAPTOR HAVING DATA BUFFER EXTENSION
AND ADDRESS MAPPING IN A FIBRE CHANNEL SWITCH

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus that recognizes a portion of an address that would be
5 unrecognizable to an intended associated switch or device and manipulates the portion
of the address to make it recognizable. The apparatus and method manipulates a
discontinuous address to provide the appearance to the associated device, switch or
peripheral, that the address is continuous. This provides additional address capacity
such that a new address is created within the switch itself for routing data within the
10 switch. All or a portion of the switches in network are preassigned a chassis address,
and each chassis also has a specific switch address that is different from the preassigned
chassis address. An address adaptor provides translation of addresses and mapping
within a switch so that in the event of a port failure, affected frames can be redirected
from the failed port by employing the described translation and mapping operations.

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